

What Is Claimed Is:

1. Method for signaling information relevant for the operation of a motor vehicle,  
wherein this information is formed by an operating point of a drive unit of the vehicle and a  
haptic signal is formed at a control element (1) of the vehicle, an accelerator pedal in  
5 particular, as a function of the operating point.
2. The method as recited in Claim 1,  
wherein an optimum operating point of the drive unit, an optimum engine efficiency in  
particular, is indicated by the haptic signal.
3. The method as recited in Claim 2,  
10 wherein the optimum operating point is determined as a function of an output variable to be  
output by the drive unit, a setpoint torque in particular, and an as a function of instantaneous  
operating variable of the drive unit, an engine speed in particular.
4. The method as recited in Claim 3,  
wherein the output variable to be output by the drive unit is determined as a function of a  
15 position of the control element (1).
5. The method as recited in one of Claims 2 through 4,  
wherein haptic signaling starts approximately when the optimum operating point is reached.
6. The method as recited in one of the preceding claims,  
wherein the haptic signal is formed by a restoring force acting on the control element (1).
- 20 7. A device (5) for signaling information relevant for the operation of the vehicle,  
wherein means (20) are provided for forming this information via an operating point of a  
drive unit, and means (10) are provided which form a haptic signal at a control element (1) of  
the vehicle, an accelerator pedal in particular, as a function of the operating point.